

**LCGCC Recommendations submitted by Dee Eggers (CO Equivalent Net Emission Reduction Program) - February 5, 2010**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY TO COMPLETE THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF A STATE CARBON DIOXIDE EQUIVALENT NET EMISSION  
REDUCTION PROGRAM BY 2010.**

Whereas, there is a scientific consensus, as established by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and confirmed by the National Academy of Sciences, that the continued buildup of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere threatens the stability of the global climate; and

Whereas, more effective and responsive management of greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration are necessary to protect the public health and safety, long term economic well-being, and environment of the State; and

Whereas, the interests of the State are inextricably connected to the proper management of greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration, therefore, it is in the best interests of the State and its citizens to develop a State policy and programs that serve to coordinate solutions to greenhouse gas emission and sequestration problems; and

Whereas, other countries are undertaking measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which provides industries in those countries with a competitive advantage in the growing global market for climate-friendly technologies; and

Whereas, a net reduction of the concentration of all anthropogenic greenhouse gases in the atmosphere will be most protective of the future of North Carolina's economy and public health; and

Whereas, North Carolina's annual carbon dioxide emissions are increasing faster than those of any other state except Arizona; and

Whereas, North Carolina already ranks twenty fourth in the world for greenhouse gas emissions, if one regards each state in the U.S. as if it were a country, and then compares all states and countries; and

Whereas, over the next 100 years, sea-level rise will affect North Carolina more than any other state except Louisiana; and

Whereas, annual vehicle miles traveled, and related greenhouse gas emissions, are increasing at a rate faster than the population due to low-density, uncoordinated land use; and

Whereas, according to the Stern Review of the economics of climate change, every dollar invested in addressing greenhouse gas emissions will save five dollars; and

Whereas, North Carolina farmers will have significant economic opportunities to participate in carbon markets by offering carbon sequestration services; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** The Division of Air Quality under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall:

- (1) Design emissions reduction, sequestration, and carbon offset measures to decrease net CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions from electrical generation, industry, transportation, agriculture, and other significant sources by 60%

**LCGCC Recommendations submitted by Dee Eggers (CO Equivalent Net Emission Reduction Program) - February 5, 2010**

by 2025 and 80% by 2050, which shall be achieved through the use of renewable energy, conservation, efficiency, use of non-fossil organic fuels, sequestration, and purchase of emissions offsets.

- (2) Achieve these goals in a manner that minimizes costs and maximizes benefits for North Carolina's economy, improves and modernizes North Carolina's energy infrastructure, strongly emphasizes conservation and efficiency, maintains electric system reliability, maximizes additional environmental and economic co-benefits for North Carolina, and compliments the NCDENR Division of Air Quality's efforts to improve air quality.
- (3) Consult with the Utilities Commission, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Transportation, and knowledgeable out-of-State agencies in the development of the above program.

**SECTION 2.** The General Assembly of the State of North Carolina shall appropriate funds for twelve (12) additional, permanent, full-time, technical positions and (2) support staff positions in the NCDENR Division of Air Quality to carry out this legislation.

**SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.